[14th December 1923]

(c) During the last five years capital expenditure amounting to Rs. 77,940 has been incurred on the remodelling of channels, and additional expenditure from revenue on re-piping, the details of which are not available.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Construction of General Hospital at Mangalore.

44 *Q.*—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(i) when the construction of the new General Hospital in Mangalore is likely to commence; and

(ii) whether the Government will consider the advisability of erecting a separate hospital for women and children at Mangalore and providing the necessary funds therefor in the next Budget?

A.—(i) The Government are not in a position to state definitely when work on the new combined hospital at Mangalore is likely to be commenced. A comprehensive programme of new works required in the medical department has been prepared and the works have, after careful consideration, been arranged in the order of urgency under four different classes:—

(1) Very emergent.

(2) Emergent.

(3) Ordinary.

(4) Desirable, but which can be delayed.

The Mangalore hospital is included in class (3) Ordinary. In view of the present financial stringency, the Government are not in a position to provide money for any works included in classes (3) and (4).

(ii) On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, the Government have decided that the new hospital to be constructed at Mangalore should be a combined institution the female half of which will be separated from the male half by a wall and be in charge of a lady-doctor. The Government do not consider it necessary to erect a separate hospital for women and children.

Filling up of the Tanjore District Board Presidentship.

45 *Q.*—MR. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the Presidentship of the District Board of Tanjore that fell vacant in June last remains unfilled by nomination or election, while those of Chittoor, Godavari, Coimbatore and Chingleput where vacancies arose either contemporaneously or subsequently have been promptly filled up;

(b) whether it is intended to fill up the Presidentship of the Tanjore District Board shortly; and

(c) whether in the matter of filling up these vacancies any principle or policy is involved?